

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from:
(a) nucleic acid molecules ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3; (b) nucleic acid molecules ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing, under stringent hybridization conditions, to a nucleotide sequence complementary to the polypeptide coding region of a nucleic acid molecule as defined in (a); and (c) nucleic acid molecules ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a nucleic acid sequence which is degenerate as a result of the genetic code to a nucleotide sequence as defined in (a) or (b).

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Original) A vector harboring the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

Claim 5. (Original) A replicable expression vector which carries and is capable of mediating the expression of a nucleotide sequence according to claim 1.

Claim 6. (Previously Amended) A cultured host cell harboring a vector according to claim 4.

Claim 7. (Original) A process for production of a polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell according to claim 6 under conditions whereby said polypeptide is produced, and recovering said polypeptide.

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A cultured host cell harboring a vector according to claim 5.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A process for production of a polypeptide, comprising culturing a host cell according to claim 9 under conditions whereby said polypeptide is produced, and recovering said polypeptide.